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Letter dated 27 December 1999 from the Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith a letter dated 22 December 1999, addressed to you by His Excellency Mr. Aytuğ Plümer, Representative of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (see annex).

I should be grateful if the text of the present letter and its annex were circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 63, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Volkan VURAL
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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ANNEX

Letter dated 22 December 1999 from Mr. Aytuğ Plûmer addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to refer to the letters dated 2 and 30 November 1999 (A/54/522-S/1999/1120 and A/54/642-S/1999/1211, respectively) addressed to you by the Greek Cypriot representative at the United Nations, which contain allegations of "violations of the airspace of the Republic".

It will be recalled that similar allegations of so-called "airspace violations" were rejected in toto in our previous communications addressed to you, most recently in my letter dated 13 October 1999 (A/54/463-S/1999/1059, annex). Since the current allegations are no different from the preceding ones, they do not merit a detailed reply. I wish to reiterate, however, that flights within the sovereign airspace of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus take place with the full knowledge and consent of the appropriate authorities of the State, over which the Greek Cypriot administration in the South has no jurisdiction or any right of say whatsoever.

The repeated allegations made by the Greek Cypriot administration are based on the false and unacceptable premise that its sovereignty extends over the whole island. This posture is completely detached from the current realities in the island, namely, the existence of two sovereign peoples and their respective states, and constitutes a major impediment to a comprehensive settlement.

In order to facilitate a realistic settlement, it should be openly acknowledged that the purely Greek Cypriot administration, whose jurisdiction extends only over the area of the island under Greek Cypriot control, is not and cannot be the Government of the Turkish Cypriot people or the island as a whole.

I should be grateful if the text of the present letter could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 63, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Aytuğ PLÛMER
Representative
Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus